



Martin Luther King, Jr. County Labor Council, AFL-CIO

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May 10, 2006

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AWVSP Team Office

Douglas MacDonald, Transportation Secretary
Washington State Dept. of Transportation
PO Box 43700
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Secretary MacDonald,

I am writing about the letter received from David Dye concerning the SR 519 Phase 2 project. Both the "Go" and No Go" options outlined in Mr. Dye's letter are cause for great concern at the Labor Council. Our Maritime Trades affiliates are alarmed that the lack of funding for the "Go" option and the apparent abandonment of freight mobility progress in the "No Go" option point to a stagnation and possible decline in the industrial viability of the Seattle Waterfront and related areas.

The May 12th deadline concerning responses to Mr. Dye's letter suggests that the original SR 519 Phase 2 couplet is dead and you are prepared to redirect the funding. Again, we are alarmed at this position and strongly disagree that either the "Go" or "No Go" options are in the best interest of the workers who bring family wage jobs to our economy through employment in King County's industrial waterfront.

I am in receipt of the Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels's response to Mr. Dye's letter. It is clear that the Mayor's office opposes the original Phase 2 couplet. What is left unclear is how the Massachusetts Street alternative supported by the Mayor's office would be financed. This leaves the Labor Council to conclude that real freight mobility plans for the eastern Duwamish waterway will not proceed, that the industrial viability of the area will be compromised and that the gentrification process that is supplanting our industrial base will threaten the SODO industrial area.

We implore you to delay implementing your "Go/No Go" document. All the stakeholders must be brought together to fully assess the impact of what appears to be transpiring. The Labor Council is ready to participate. We will advocate for the good industrial jobs that have made Seattle/King County the economic powerhouse that drives the economy of the region.

Sincerely,

David Freiboth
Executive Secretary

Nancy Young, President • James Davis, Vice President • David Freiboth, Executive Secretary

AFFILIATED WITH THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

Douglas MacDonald
State of Washington Transportation Secretary
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cc: Vince O'Halloran, Maritime Trades Council
Herald Ugles, ILWU Local 19
Tony Hutter, ILWU Local 9
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Rich Feldman, Worker Center
Port Commissioners, Port of Seattle
Mayor Greg Nickels, City of Seattle
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Judy Giniger, WSDOT Public Transportation & Rail Office
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Matthew Rose, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway
Ron Posthuma, King County METRO
Kevin Callan, Washington State Major League Baseball Stadium PFD
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Susan Ranf, Baseball Club of Seattle, LP
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